

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 03697 120040Z

65

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 /012 W

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O 120020Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7616

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 3697

STATE: PASS TO AMBASSADOR HODGSON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA (JAMES D. HODGSON), JA

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR HODGSON'S RETURN - PRESS

1. BASED ON DISCUSSIONS WITH GOJ, WE EXPECT LARGE CONTINGENT OF REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS TO COVER RETURN OF AMBASSADOR HODGSON. IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE DEPARTURE FROM AIRPORT BUT AT SAME TIME TO AVOID THE IMPRESSION THAT THE AMBASSADOR IS AVOIDING THE MEDIA, EMBASSY PROPOSES THAT WE PASS OUT PRE-PARED ARRIVAL STATEMENT AND ANNOUNCE TO NEWSMEN THAT THE AMBASSADOR WILL BE AVAILABLE BRIEFLY FOR PHOTOGRAPHS BUT WILL NEITHER MAKE ORAL STATEMENT NOR ANSWER QUESTIONS.

2. PROPOSE ARRIVAL STATEMENT ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: I AM DELIGHTED TO RETURN TO JAPAN AFTER HAVING SPENT TWO WEEKS IN THE UNITED STATES. AFTER MAKING TWO SPEECHES IN CALIFORNIA, IN RESPONSE TO LONG-STANDING INVITATIONS, I SPENT SEVERAL DAYS IN WASHINGTON, DC, WHERE I WAS ABLE TO MEET WITH A NUMBER OF SENIOR OFFICIALS FOR DISCUSSIONS ON THE ENTIRE RANGE OF BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL CONCERNS WHICH AFFECT U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONS. AS YOU KNOW, I ALSO MET WITH MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. I WAS PLEASED TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY AND HIGHLY GRATIFIED BY THE COMMITTEE'S POSITIVE RESPONSE TO MY APPEARANCE.

I RETURN FROM THE UNITED STATES IMPRESSED ONCE AGAIN

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 03697 120040Z

BY THE TREMENDOUS IMPORTANCE WHICH MY COUNTRYMEN

ATTACH TO A CLOSE AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH
JAPAN.

3. PLEASE ADVISE ON AMBASSADOR'S VIEWS ON ABOVE.
SHOESMITH

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